



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Robert "Bear"
Falls.

Pelath, Dermody, Dvorak

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20152751

2015

HC 1042/DI 84



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Robert "Bear" Falls.

Whereas, The life of Robert "Bear" Falls came to an end on Saturday, January 24, 2015, at the age of 63;

Whereas, Bear leaves behind a host of faithful family members and friends;

Whereas, A standout athlete at Elston High School who went on to play running back for Illinois State, Bear Falls never lost his love for home;

Whereas, As an athlete at Elston High School, Bear was named to the all-state football team, and was the first player in Illinois State history to play both offensive and defensive halfback, breaking school records in pass receiving;

Whereas, After graduation, Bear returned to his hometown where he began his career as a teacher of Physical Education, Health, and Driver's Education at Elston High School, his alma mater, in Michigan City;

Whereas, During his 20 years at Elston, Bear was an assistant coach at the freshman, junior varsity, and varsity levels for both football and basketball;

Whereas, Bear began his coaching career under Elston High School's Dan Steinke, staying all 18 seasons Steinke coached the Red Devils;



Whereas, Bear Falls was named the first head basketball coach for Michigan City High School in 1995, a position he held until 2001;

Whereas, Under his guidance, the Wolves went 81-42 and never had a losing season;

Whereas, Bear led the team to a Duneland Conference championship in 1997-1998 and three second-place finishes;

Whereas, Bear Falls is the winningest coach at Michigan City since the consolidation;

Whereas, Bear Falls retired as Athletic Director for the Michigan City Area Schools in June 2014, a post he held since 2005;

Whereas, In addition to his duties at the Michigan City schools, Bear was active on the community athletic scene, serving on the Indiana High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and Executive Committee (2007-2009), and was a strong supporter of youth sports by coaching and officiating at community leagues and tournaments for both softball and basketball;

Whereas, A fixture within the Michigan City school system for 40 years, Bear Falls impacted students and athletes throughout Northwest Indiana, earning several state honors as an educator, coach, and athletic director; and

Whereas, Robert "Bear" Falls touched so many in the community positively throughout his career as a teacher, coach, and athletic director, stressing academics, character, and discipline while shaping the lives of our youth: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly wishes to express
- 2 the great feeling of loss we all experienced with the passing of Robert
- 3 "Bear" Falls. He was an outstanding athlete, coach, and administrator,
- 4 but he was an even better father, husband, and friend.



1 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
2 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to his wife, Tonya,
3 and daughter, Robyn.

